517 [273] drinking *charanda*, but only men get drunk outside the fiestas and weddings.

517 533 Music is liked by both sexes. All ages will gather to hear a phonograph, regardless of what it plays. Boys gather to play the harmonica and sing, often dancing the *jarabe tapatío*. Older men often play instruments and will gather together in their spare time simply to play for the fun of it. Women never play instruments, although they may sing.

517 Fireworks, magicians, and ventriloquists will always draw crowds at fiestas. Several years before the study some of the "progressive" families had social dances in their houses, with ballroom dancing. The leaders were a group of sisters who had lived outside the town. They later married and left the town, and the practice ceased.

[571] Women visit and talk together a good deal. Much of the embroidery and crocheting done is for amusement as well as for sale.

517 525 Some men like gambling for small sums. Gambling devices at fiestas are always well patronized. A few years ago card games, especially poker, were introduced by men who had been in the United States. Games are played at the billiard parlors, mostly by younger men. The billiard games are also patronized primarily by the young men. Perhaps 4 or 5 men in town smoke marihuana, growing it in their lots. Cigarettes are the common smoke of the majority; most adult males, and many adult women, smoke. Cheap "tailor-made" cigarettes are smoked, usually a brand known as Tigres.

517 [276]

291 Tastes are fixed even in some matters of dress. Men in Cherán all wear dark serapes and blue sashés. The bright rose and blue serapes of Capacuaro are never seen, nor are the red or white sashes of other towns. Some say the dark colors are faster, others say the bright colors are only for boys, and a few say that the dark colors were more "civilized." As Miguel O. de Mendizabal pointed out in conversation, the first mark of urban influence in Mexico is usually the disappearance of the brighter serapes.

Women have similar habits, although perhaps they are more traditional. Of the several belts worn by women in the traditional costume,

244 European cabbage (*col, repollo*), which the Indians
262 have thoroughly taken into their diet. Both the leaf and head varieties are cultivated. Almost every ekuáru in all Tarascan villages contains a small patch of cabbages, which are used for the famous čurípu, or meat and vegetable stew [94] (pl. 5). A more common stew (*repollo-šakuá*) is made of cabbage alone, flavored with red chile, onion, and silantro. The leaf cabbage is the
244 usual variety found in the Sierra. It is rarely planted by seed, but by replanting sprouts that occur at the base of the stalk. The plant is persistent, surviving the frosty Sierra winter; leaves are stripped off until the stock often reaches a meter in height. Other vegetables such as lettuce, radishes, carrots, peas, and turnips, although known in many parts of Tarasca since early colónial times, are today little cultivated or used in native cookery.

247 In addition to the food annuals, the ekuáru
249 contains various medicinal and ornamental plants, mainly those of the Solanaceae, Fabaceae, and Compositae. In a great number of the house
● [276] lots women plant a stalk or two of tobacco (*Nicotiana rustica*, andúmukua), used not for smoking,
[278] but as medicine.[95] The *trompeta* or *floripondio* (*Datura arborea*); *colorín* or p'ɔɹéŋɛ (*Erythrina americana*); two euphorbias, *chupiri* (*E. calyculata*) and *flor de pascua* (*E. pulcherrima*); and the Old World *higuerilla* or castor bean (*Ricinus communis*) are not uncommon in the house gardens of the low country marginal to the Sierra. European Compositae, geraniums etc., make up most of the ornamental plants cultivated around the house.

Fruit culture in the ekuáru.—Practically every
245 house lot in most Tarascan villages contains a few fruit trees, both Old World and native. A definite climatic distribution of fruit types exists. In the Sierra are found only the cold-tolerant deciduous fruits such as the European peach, apple, pear, quince, and the native crab apple (*tejocote* or kaɹás) and cherry (*capulín* or šéngua). In the lowlands around the Sierra, however, both subtropical and cold-tolerant fruits are cultivated. The former include the Old World citrus (limes, oranges, lemons), figs, pomegranate (*granada de*

[94] Čurípu is eaten principally during the maize harvest period and on religious holidays.

[95] For example, in Pichátaro tobacco is taken for fever and is chewed to cure toothache.